

Progress of the Negro - 1929.

Winston-Salem, N. C., Sentinel
Sunday, February 10, 1929

Address Before Winston-Salem Ministers Delineates Steady Advance of Race in This City; Most Progress Noted in Educational Fields.

Editor's note: The following address dealing with the progress of the negro race in this city, was delivered before the Winston-Salem Ministerial Association last week by Dr. S. G. Atkins, president of the Winston-Salem Teachers' College, and one of the South's best known negro educational leaders.

Kind Friends:

I greatly appreciate the consideration, which is shown me by the ministers of the city, in extending me an invitation to address them.

I realize that the time of such a group of workers as yourselves is very valuable, and I am hoping that the portion of it which you have allotted me this morning may, at least to some extent, serve the purpose intended. I understand that the ministers have for some months been addressing themselves to the topic, "Know Your City," and I appreciate the fact that you have included in your study the race group represented by me. Undoubtedly, this is justified, if on no other ground than the fact that this group includes about one-third of our population, and thus anything which affects the condition and welfare of the other race group. Your study has probably had in mind both the achievements already made and the things that should still be done to carry our community forward in the direction of progress and good understanding. Perhaps I can best use the time by discussing briefly the following points:

1. Our negro population, especially from the standpoint of its rapid increase, and the influence of the new population on negro life generally in our city.
2. Industrial and material progress.
3. Educational progress.
4. Certain personal influences that have contributed in a large measure toward our good race situation.
5. The religious situation among negroes in our community.
6. Some suggestions on community matters involving retardation, progress and the permanent of good feeling between the development of good feeling between the races.

Permit me now to discuss these six points briefly:

Population Multiplied

I. In the nearly 40 years of my residence in Winston-Salem, I have seen the negro population multiplied by five or six. When I came here in 1890, there were perhaps

5,000 of my race group in the community. These were mostly native North Carolinians with a few Virginians, and were a group eager to use every opportunity for improvement and progress. It was comparatively easy to get the attention of the entire group on any suggestion relating to education, religion or material progress. Agencies in the community like our churches, our public schools, the Slater School in its early history, and the Moravian efforts for negroes, commanded the attention of the negro people, and exerted in a marked way a guiding influence upon the development and character of these people. This was distinctly true, say up to 1900. From 1900 up to the present time we have had our negro population practically doubled every ten years, until now we have a negro population in the city of around 30,000. The interesting and serious thing about this population increase is that these new people were largely the submerged element in sections where negroes had little or no opportunity and their object in coming to Winston-Salem has been chiefly a bread and butter one.

They are people who have formerly had almost no advantage of schools, and among whom no type of uplifting social work had been done, so that they necessarily came to our city very backward and raw, as well as ignorant. The older persons of these new arrivals, of course, found work in our tobacco factories, and found their new opportunity, which in many cases almost turned their heads, and made it equally difficult to get their attention in reference to matters that would improve them and make them more intelligent and better qualified for good citizenship. They were not necessarily a lawless element, but their new found hope in Winston-Salem, not only gave them money with which to blossom out, but exposed them to city dangers, to which they had not before been exposed. Our social, educational and religious problems have been thus multiplied, and magnified during the past three decades. I am calling attention to this, gentlemen, with the hope that you will as you have time, think about what it means to have such population constantly increasing in the community, and of the situation which it must create.

Industrial Progress

II. Under my second topic, "Industrial and Material Progress," you will be interested to know there has been unimpeded progress among negroes of our city in the realm of industry and material acquisitions. Progress in these two particulars, however, has not been commensurate with the increase in population, but it has been highly encouraging. You will probably be surprised to know how much of real property belongs to the colored people of our city. In 1923 the taxable rate of their property was \$3,408,425.00. In 1928, \$4,468,870.00.

This increase of more than one million dollars in five years is

gratifying evidence of the industry and thrift of our colored people. In following up the idea of "Know Your City," it would pay our white citizens, especially those who are to determine largely the future of our community, to drive through the colored districts and to note with some particularity the evidence of material progress among negroes, as shown by the large number of excellent homes which many of them are securing for themselves, as well as the many lines of business in which they are engaged. May I say that this gratifying condition has been the result largely of the splendid policy of our city and our leading citizens, led on especially by our recent progressive and broad-minded mayors. The fact that the city was ready to give to the negroes modern conveniences, including paved streets, lights, water and sewer connections has contributed greatly to the contentment and development of our negro population in an industrial and material way. It has promoted an important race adjustment which has relieved our community of the segregation troubles which have occurred in many other Southern cities.

Guarantee Against Trouble

You will pardon me for observing upon our Columbian Heights development as an exemplification of the principle of a voluntary segregation trend which practically guarantees us against any segregation troubles in the future. It might not be out of place for me to throw in here a little piece of interesting history which bears upon this point. Our city was never inclined to promote segregation on any unfair basis. The attitude of leaders in our city on that point really furnished the basis for developing and establishing voluntary segregation. I remember very well when there was an effort to force one of our colored citizens to give up his property and leave his home because it was in the same block where some people of the other race lived. Mr. Buxton, the leading lawyer of our city at that time, readily took this colored citizen's case and won it for him, even carrying it up to the State Supreme Court. It was a principle of justice with Mr. Buxton, and it so reassured the negroes as to the spirit of our city in regard to their rights under the law, that it prepared them the more readily to accept and become content with the better policy of voluntary segregation, which would eventually leave neither race any ground for complaint or discontent. In this one matter which might be termed largely the "Columbian Heights Method," we are, I think ahead of all other Southern communities. Because the matter was settled upon the safe ground of fair treatment by our city and justice in the courts, the negroes of our community have been entirely free of unrest, and so, have made the progress industrially and materially, which I have tried to describe.

III. Perhaps the most influential

factor in all this betterment program has been the educational square deal of our city with regard to its negro population. It is well known that our city has as its fixed policy fair treatment for all its citizens, including our negro citizens, in the matter of civic justice and education. What I have said in the previous topic about improved streets and other civic benefits, are highly convincing, but the evidence of Winston-Salem's attitude of the square deal is perhaps even more apparent in what the city has done in an educational way. What has happened educationally in our city within a short time, is very striking. When I first came to Winston-Salem to become principal of the one public school for negroes in the city, the school property might be valued at \$10,000, and it compared favorably with the school investment for white people in the city at the same time. You probably know that the investment for negro schools in this city now amounts to over a half million dollars, and that the negro school population within three decades has jumped from seven or eight hundred to more than five thousand. It may be surprising to you to know that the negro high school enrolment in our city is around 1,000. I can hardly trust my own mind when I recall the fact that we had only two or three graduates from the ninth grade during the period when I was principal of the one public school for negroes in the city, a little more than 30 years ago.

Praises Mr. Latham

When our present, able, broad-minded superintendent of schools, Mr. Latham, a few years ago planned with some of us for a negro high school, we thought we had reached almost a maximum educational achievement when the city under a bond issue provided for a negro high school that would accommodate three to four hundred high school students. Now, Mr. Latham is almost amazed to find a demand for accommodations for a thousand negro high school students. I remarked to Mr. Latham that he should not let his amazement be too great because he had given the high school lesson to the negroes of the city, as well as other school lessons, and they had learned it quickly and with a rush.

One of the most interesting demonstrations of community interest in educational welfare of the negro population is the rebuilding of the Memorial Industrial School for negro orphan children, at a new site to the north of the city.

Outstanding Achievement

The expanding program of the trustees of this institution is one of the finest things being done in any community in the State by a group of white people for the benefit of a disadvantaged needy group of the other race. Mr. R. C. Haberkern and his associates should be ranked high as philanthropists, and should have the grateful appreciation of both races. Speaking now of the educational work which I represent,

you may not be aware that the Winston-Salem Teachers College, located in our city, is a standard "A" grade college as determined by the action of the College Rating Board of North Carolina, the same action which it has taken in reference to all other colleges in State without regard to race. Our college was the first State institution for negroes in this State to reach this rank. There are five negro colleges in North Carolina that have attained the rank of "A" class colleges. They are in the order in which they attained "A" grade rating: Shaw University, Raleigh; Johnson C. Smith, Charlotte; Winston-Salem Teachers' College, Winston-Salem; Agricultural and Technical College, Greensboro, and Livingstone College, Salisbury. Our institution was the third among the five, and the first among negro institutions to reach this rank. This may be information to the ministers of the city. Permit me to say further that the college now has property valued at over \$600,000 with a faculty of nearly thirty officers and instructors, and an enrolment of nearly 300 of college grade students. The college which is better known in the community as the Slater State Normal School, was the first institution for the higher education of negroes in the State to be able to abandon high school work, and to give itself wholly to training on the college level. This was possible because of the fine co-operation that has existed between the city schools and the Slater Normal School through all the years, making it possible for the Normal School and Teachers' College to use the city schools for training purposes, and to be released from the necessity of maintaining a special training school itself for this purpose. We were, therefore, able to be the first negro college in the State to give up entirely all work below the college level. You can see that it is distinctly significant to have a negro institution in the community with a bona fide college enrolment of nearly 300, all of whom had to be graduates of accredited high schools before they could be registered in the institution. The presence of this institution in the community has had a significant bearing on educational progress generally because the college has been right at hand to prepare teachers for our elementary schools, both of the city and the county. More than one-fifth of all the negro teachers employed at present in the city schools were prepared in the Slater Normal School, and Winston-Salem Teachers College. In closing my remarks with regard to education and educational progress, it may be fitting to refer to our recent city bond issue for schools which provides now for a great forward program in education for both races in the city, a notable item of which is to be a high school for negroes to accommodate at least 1,000 students.

IV. Under my next topic, I wish to speak of certain personal influences which have contributed to our present situation and outlook. I have already referred to the broad gauged, just spirit of our

city, but of course, it is not an im-
personal matter when we speak of
a fine city, or a progressive city
or a just city. We, of course,
have reference to the people, just
as we have reference to the peo-
ple when we speak of progressive
and just State or country. We are
the type of a growing, progres-
sive, prosperous city, which we are
because of certain men and wom-
en that have lived and do live in
it. My residence in this city gave
me a acquaintance and touch with many
of our splendid citizens, who have
crossed the bar, as well as many
of those who are still with us on
the earthly stage of action. The
foundations to which I have been
referring, especially those that
make for justice and progress and
contentment for all the people,
were laid largely by certain trans-
lated souls who shall never be for-
gotten, about whom I am happy
always to tell the negro people of
our city. I cannot name them all,
but I do want to name a few who
have gone, as well as a few who
still remain. Of those who have
passed over, I would like to men-
tion first of all Mr. R. J. Reynolds.
We think of him as our biggest
business man. He was not only a
big business man, but he was a
big, broad-gauged citizen. I speak
of course, with special reference
to his influence on race relations
in the community. It was my hon-
or to meet him frequently and
to know him well, and more and
more I realized his friendship for
my people, not only as a matter of
pure human justice, but as a mat-
ter of economic justice as well;
and I do not forget also that we
had such men in our city as Mr.
A. B. Gorrell, Mr. W. A. Whitaker,
Mr. J. W. Alspaugh, Mr. James A.
Gray, Mr. J. C. Buxton, Mr. Clem-
ent Manley, none of whom ever
failed in promoting good race re-
lations, and in making the negroes
feel that Winston-Salem might be
their permanent home in which
they could dwell in peace and
safety and prosperity—they and
their children.

Lauds Those Living

Speaking of individuals who
abide with us still, there is a great
host of them. I have referred to
Mr. Latham. I would like to re-
fer to our Mayors for the last two
or three years, especially Mr. R. W.
Gorrell, and Mrs. James G. Hanes.
We have still with us also men
like Col. W. A. Blair, Mr. H. E.
Fries, Mr. A. H. Eller, Mr. H. G.
Chatham, the younger Haneses and
Grays, the Norfleets, and a host of
others who are helping to make
secure a fine inheritance which
both races have in our splendid
Twin City.

I have recently talked to stu-
dents on the question, "Who Built
Our School?" and they were much
interested in one part of the an-
swer. I told them how that many
a time the institution might have
been closed by two or three firms
or individuals in the city, if they
had decided to refuse indulgence
or call their loans.

In making a reference to indi-
viduals, I wish to speak of our
great ministers. I refer to Bishop
Rondthaler and Dr. H. A. Brown.
Of course, the activity of these
men is known to us by heart, but
it may not be known how much
these two Christian leaders have up-
counted for in our city for con-

tinued good understanding and law
and order. Their lives have been
known and read of all men, and
the fact that most people of both
races have known well these two
men, and known their spirit, has
been a sort of "savor of life unto
life" for all our people for a pe-
riod through well nigh a half cen-
tury, and their goings out and
their comings in have been a
source of heaven to the whole com-
munity. Good race relations and
liberal consideration of the colored
people by the white people have
been largely due to their quiet in-
fluence and their good word
spoken in due season.

Religious Progress Not Satisfactory
The religious situation among
negroes in our community repre-
sents notable progress in a way,
but is far from satisfactory. As
among the negro people generally,
the negro church in this commu-
nity, other than mere church houses,
has not kept up with negro prog-
ress in other directions.

Negro intelligence as a result of
the work of the schools has not
been utilized by the negro church
here or elsewhere, as it should
have been. Very largely the old
timers still dominate the negro
church.

The negro religious denomina-
tions have given comparatively
little attention to the training of
preachers. This is a large mat-
ter, the discussion of which would
require all the time at my dis-
posal today, and more. It is my
opinion that this feature of race
development has perhaps been less
influenced by white contact and
direction than any other item in
the life of the negro people. It
is a pity that more definite and
effective contact does not exist
at this point. Of course, relig-
ious work is the one field in which
negro race life is most independ-
ent, but because of the great in-
fluence of religion on the life of
the negro people it is, as I see it,
most unfortunate that the negro
does not or can not have the as-
sistance of their neighbors more
definitely and effectively in con-
nection with it.

It seems to me that industry
has gone ahead of religion at this
point. It seems to me that poli-
tics, also, has gone ahead of the
church here, and I am almost sure
that education has. Our interest
this morning is largely a local one,
of course, and I wish a strong com-
mittee of this association could
study at length the questions which
I have raised in this connection
and if possible find a way to as-
sist in answering them. It will
undoubtedly be found that the
methods employed to meet this
situation will have to be indirect
and perhaps entirely in the field
of friendly brotherly suggestion.

VI. If there were time for me to
discuss my 6th topic, there are
several matters, some of them of
a more less delicate nature, which
I might have the consideration of
this association, but which should
probably be considered in executive
session, or by a special committee
before becoming public.

Let me close with this Christmas
sentiment of one of Dr. Cadman's
colored friends, who is also an old
friend of mine. It has been my
wish and effort during my long
residence in Winston-Salem to live
up to this personal ideal and ex-
perience. That is:

"To live quietly within my means;
To think soberly on great things;
To practice charity toward all men;
To speak thoughtfully at all times;
To work constructively and be
happy about it;
To dwell in the conscious presence
of God that I may serve Him
and my neighbor in all that I
do."

APPROVES MONUMENT PROJECT

Journal and Guide
**Building Would Be A
Tribute To The
Race**

\$500,000 IS NEEDED

Special to Journal and Guide
Washington, D. C., Mar. 6—
Before noon, March 4, President
Coolidge approved a joint resolu-
tion for the creation of a com-
mission on the erection of a me-
morial building in the Nation's
Capital as a tribute to the Negro's
contribution to the achievements
of America.

The resolution creates a com-
mission of fifteen members. The
director of public buildings and
public parks of the National Cap-
ital, the supervising architect of
the Treasury, and the architect of
the Capitol are ex-officio mem-
bers. The President is empow-
ered to appoint twelve members.

This commission shall be known as
the National Memorial Commission.
It is authorized to procure and de-
termine upon a location, plans, and
designs for a memorial building suit-
able for meetings of patriotic organ-
izations, public ceremonial events,
the exhibition of art and inventions,
and placing statues and tablets as
tribute to the Negro's contribution
to the achievements of America.

Site of Memorial

The construction of the memorial
is to be upon a site to be determined
by the commission and approved by
the Commission of Fine Arts. The
construction is to begin as speedily
as practicable after the plans and de-
sign is determined and approved by
the Commission of Fine Arts and shall
be prosecuted to completion under
the direction of the Fine Arts Com-
mission and the supervision of the

director of public buildings and pub-
lic parks. The cost of the memora-
l is authorized to be not less than
\$500,000 which shall be raised by vol-
untary contributions.

The National Memorial Commis-
sion is authorized to employ the serv-
ices of such artists, sculptors, archi-
tects and others as may be neces-
sary. It is also authorized to avail
itself of the services of the Fine Arts
Commission, the office of public
buildings and public parks, the su-
pervising architect of the Treasury
and the architect of the Capitol.

The sum of \$500,000 is made avail-
able to defray the expenses of the
commission and the cost of securing
plans and designs when the sum of
\$500,000 shall have been collected and
paid into the hands of the National
Memorial Association.

The commission is required to sub-
mit to Congress from time to time a
detailed statement as to the progress
of the work.

NEW YORK TIMES

**HOUSE VOTES, 248 TO 86,
FOR NEGRO MEMORIAL**

**Southern Members Oppose Joint
Resolution for Building and
Site to Cost \$1,000,000.**

Special to The New York Times.
WASHINGTON, March 2.—By a
vote of 248 to 86 the House today
passed a joint resolution that gives
government sanction to the erection
of a memorial building in Washing-
ton "as a tribute to the negroes'
contribution to the achievements of
America."

The resolution, which has passed
the Senate and now goes to the
President for approval, was sharply
attacked by southern Democrats on
the ground that it was a Republican
bid for Negro support in elections.

Representative Rankin of Missis-
sippi, who led the fight against the
resolution, declared that "instead of
running off on this tangent Congress
should pause in its labors and pass
a bill to erect a monument in Wash-
ington to Thomas Jefferson."

He announced that he would pre-
sent such a measure in the new
Congress.

Representatives Taylor of Tennes-
see and Thatcher of Kentucky, Re-
publicans, supported the resolution,
declaring that the negro had "cov-
ered himself with glory" in nearly
every war in which this government
had participated, and that his
achievements in this and other fields
should be memorialized as proposed.

Speeches in support of the resolu-
tion also were made by Representa-
tive Morton D. Hull of Illinois, a Re-
publican, and by Representative
Wood of Indiana, chairman of the
Republican Congressional Commit-
tee.

After listening to Mr. Wood's
eulogy of the negro, Mr. Rankin re-
plied:

"If that is a fair sample of political
thought in Indiana, I am not sur-
prised that the school children of
Gary went on a strike to free them-
selves from association with negroes."
Representative Busby of Mississippi
described the resolution as "political
legislation," and he declared that he
would become convinced that North-
ern Republicans had a sincere inter-
est in the negro, "when they invited
him into their homes to meet their
wives and daughters."

Under the joint resolution the gov-
ernment is to provide a site to cost
\$500,000 and the building is to cost
not less than \$500,000.

N. C. Record
March 8, 1929

Great Progress Shown By Negro

**Authority On Colored Race
Praises Work Of Leaders
During Last Decade.**

The Negro is on the march.

Such is the declaration made by
Will W. Alexander, director of the
commission on interracial cooperation
made in a current issue of *Christian
Herald*, non-denominational Protes-
tant weekly magazine.

Emancipation has gone forward in
every field of endeavor. Mr. Alexan-
der points out. From 1918 to 1928
eight Southern states spent more
than \$30,000,000.00 upon new con-
struction for Negro common schools.
In the ten years the school terms in
Tennessee have almost doubled. Dr.
N. C. Newbold, of North Carolina
State Department of Education, is
responsible for the statement that
"greater sums are now being spent
from public taxes on common schools
for Negroes than was spent on all
common schools in the South two
decades ago."

To quote Mr. Alexander: "In edu-
cation, medicine, journalism, the min-
istry, science, and engineering, there
are increasing numbers of Negroes
who have demonstrated their ability
to meet the standards and do work
creditable to any other men."

Credit is given to such white lead-
ers as Dr. James H. Dillard, Julius
Rosenwald, and John D. Rockefeller,
Jr. But "the finest personal contri-
butions are by Negroes. For the
progress made they themselves de-
serve more credit than the white
philanthropists or friends who have
helped."

"Emancipation is not finished. There
are still many Negro children with

There are still—determined men and women are
white people who do not believe, and still giving their lives in this effort
there are Negroes not yet awakened. to emancipate colored people and
There are difficult adjustments to be made in the future. But emancipa-
made in the future. But emancipa-
tion goes on.

Progress Marks 1928 For Norfolk Negroes Who Face Coming New Year With Optimism

**General Advancement In Race
Noted In Every Line of En-
deavor During Past 12
Months; Living and Work-
ing Conditions Improved**

By C. L. WILLIAMS
City Editor of the Norfolk Journal and
Guide

Sixty-odd years ago when the American Negro first began to share civil liberties, national education and the economic advancement of the country up until very recent years it was much less difficult to discern his progress in yearly units than it is today. As a people or race becomes farther removed from the primitive stage and more highly developed along the paths of civilization, its further progress viewed in single years becomes less and less discernable. Progress may continue, it is true, but the depths from which to come have been so shortened that the heights climbed are less marked. Hence an accumulation of years is necessary to give a more definite indication of racial or group progress than can be noted in any single year. For that reason whatever is set down in this article as indicating progress of the race group here during the past 12 months may not appear so pronounced, but it is nevertheless noteworthy and indicates that withal the colored citizens of this community are experiencing a steady if almost imperceptible march forward.

The group is imbued with that continued optimism, that sustained faith in Norfolk and its people which prompt a ready acceptance of the scriptural adjuration, "seek and ye shall find." The Negro leadership of this city, in business, the professions, religion and all other worthwhile efforts believe that the opportunity for greater individual and racial advancement is here. They have tested of even more than the first fruits and are seeking to find the whole harvest. But theirs is not an optimism of complacency. Though appreciative of the opportunities enjoyed and thankful for the progress attained, the Negro group here is keenly conscious of the fact that all is by no means as well as it might be. They thoroughly realize that their group progress might have been even more marked; that with their opportunities their economic endeavors could be fore striking and that their general ability ought to be farther advanced. So they are still seeking to find the way.

Population Figures

According to the monthly report of the city's Health Department the colored population of Norfolk as of October, 1928, totaled 65,592 persons. The white population is given as 116,608, while the total population is estimated as 182,200. It will be noted here that

the colored population is exactly 36 per cent of the whole. The figures may have varied slightly in the past two or three years, but the percentages have remained stationary for some time.

Trend of Negro Population

The colored population trend continues northeastward. East Brambleton, Douglass and Bruce Parks and Washington Heights have doubtless witnessed greater settlement growth than any colored residence section in the city during the past year. In fact these are the districts admitting of the largest expansion for colored homes within the municipal area. It is much to be doubted if there is any city in the South offering a larger area within the corporate limits for the expansion of Negro residential districts than Norfolk. And what is more, most of this area comprises beautiful and inviting suburban territory, offering the most alluring homesites. Though the lack of improvements and city sewerage is likely for some time to come to remain the chief shortcoming of the major portion of this area, such conveniences as electric lights and city water already touch a great deal of it, while a little extra effort on the part of families locating in these sections tend to develop them into selected neighborhoods. The citizens of Norfolk or the visitor here who has not taken the time to traverse the colored high school section, Huntersville, Lindenwood, Lamberts Point, Washington Heights or Broad Creek road has no fair conception of the economic progress or living ambitions of the Negro group here. It would be difficult to find homes surpassing in beauty and substantiality occupied by people of similar general economic status than those that are found in these localities.

Negro Review— osdin-DD

Building Expansion

Though the Bureau of Buildings of this city maintains no segregated list of permits issued for the erection of buildings for white and colored occupancy, the department is convinced that home building among the colored citizens here has witnessed unabated expansion. The year 1927 appears to have been the most active since the World-War period for colored home building in this city, but the Municipal Building Department is inclined to the belief that there was scarcely less of this activity during the year just closed. The entire street of homes constructed in Lindenwood by Meyer & Whitehill during the year previous, boosted the building program considerably. The same builders who specialize in Negro homes, were also quite active last year.

Tax Assessments

Other evidence that there has been no slackening in Negro home buying and building during the year just closed is seen in the tax assessment figures carried on the books of the Commissioner of Revenue for the years 1927 and 1928. The colored real estate tax assessment for 1928 amounted to \$5,517,570, while it amounted to \$5,

437,480 in 1927. The gain noted here for the twelve-month period amounts to \$80,090, which, after all, represents no inconsiderable amount of real estate. If through the acquisition of real estate alone the colored people here will be caused to pay an additional \$80,000 annually into the city treasury, they may be assured that their economic security is in the making. But the \$5,517,570 did not constitute their entire tax assessment for the year. For in addition to that, they were assessed \$23,161.32 for tangible property which consists of household furnishings or movable equipment such as automobiles and the like.

Health Status

The Negro health situation in Norfolk has witnessed steady improvement for the past 10 years. The year 1928 contributed a normal share to this improvement. Dr. P. S. Schenck, director of the Department of Public Welfare, is authority for the statement that the prospects of Negro health in the city are very encouraging. Although the colored death rate is still much higher than it is among the whites, it has nevertheless continued to decline, especially among infants. Regular physical examination of school children under direction of the health department has proved a boon to the people, and has doubtless proved an important factor in the improvement of their general health status. This school examination idea, first reluctantly accepted by parents who seemed to regard it as more of a nuisance, is now enthusiastically received and hailed as one of the most forward health measures instituted here in a generation.

The anti-tuberculosis work among the colored people is proving effective, though Dr. Charles R. Grandy, president of the Norfolk Anti-Tuberculosis League, stated in the public press last spring that much ground must be covered before the disease has been routed. Few people here realize what remarkable accomplishments the league is bringing forth in this city, and especially among the colored people. It would be impossible to appraise accurately the value of the work of the anti-tuberculosis clinic and the open air rooms in the public school system. The colored open-air room, which is like the other, operated co-operatively by the Anti-Tuberculosis League and the school board, is located in the Dunbar school on East Princess Anne road. The oversight given undernourished children here is proving one of the greatest helps to the health of Norfolk. There are 42 pupils registered in this of the Attucks Shoe Company; W. H. Haggie and Helen Quetrell, haberdashers, are among the colored business leaders who are of the opinion that business conditions within the race showed improvement last year, and entertain much hope for the future. No pessimism exists among them, they are of one accord that the establishments they represent in particular and business generally not only held their own, responding period of 1927, and a slight but moved on to greater stability and decrease in births. Births outnumbered more far-reaching service. Books of

Births and Deaths

There was a slight increase in deaths among the colored population for the first 10 months of 1928 over the corresponding period of 1927, and a slight decrease in births. Births outnumbered more far-reaching service. Books of

deaths for the same period of both years, however. From January 1 to October 31, 1927, there were 849 colored births registered in the city, and 715 deaths, while for the same period in 1928 there were 812 births and 754 deaths.

Business Endeavors

Business and labor have more to do with a people from an economic point of view than any other factors of their life. Certainly the colored people did not lose ground in the realm of business here during the past year, yet it is difficult to point to any outstanding progress they have experienced. Doubtless, a minute and frank analysis, however, will disclose some slight gains. A retail shoe store and an electrical supply shop were two of the most conspicuous business enterprises to get started among the group. Both of these, the Attucks Shoe Store, and the Mackey Electrical Supply Shop, are located on lower Church street. The shoe store, which opened in the spring, has done normally well, and in appearance and stock carried, it compares favorably with similar stores farther downtown. The same might be said of the electrical supply shop, which carries an engaging stock and is operated by two licensed colored electricians.

The leading business enterprises operated here by the Negro group are a bank, three building and loan associations, five district insurance offices, one furniture repair factory, one art glass factory, one printing and publishing house, one newspaper, two real estate firms, four printing establishments, one fire insurance office, one gas filling station, one medicine factory, two haberdasheries, five tailoring establishments, two feed and grain stores, seven undertaking establishments, two jewelry shops and several grocery stores, barber shops, confectionery stands, beauty parlors and other minor enterprises which add much to the economic life of the race.

W. M. Rich, president of the Metropolitan Bank and Trust Company; P. B. Young, president of the Guide Publishing Company and editor of the Norfolk Journal and Guide; S. B. Noble, district manager of the Southern Aid Society; E. M. Mitchell, district manager of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company; J. Q. Brooks, president of the J. G. Brooks Real Estate Company; G. W. O. Brown, of the Brown & Brown Realty Company; W. F. Fonville, of the Southern Furniture Repair Company; H. Omohundro, proprietor of the Norfolk Mirror and Art Glass Factory; W. H. Mitchell, of the Mitchell Medicine Company; C. R. Alexander, district manager of the National Benefit Life Insurance Company; W. T. Mason, district manager of the Bankers' Fire Insurance Company and secretary of the Community Building and Loan Association; H. C. Young, secretary of the Guide Publishing Company; C. C. Logan, secretary of the Norfolk Home Building and Loan Association; Dr. R. J. Brown, of the Attucks Shoe Company; W. H. Haggie and Helen Quetrell, haberdashers, are among the colored business leaders who are of the opinion that business conditions within the race showed improvement last year, and entertain much hope for the future. No pessimism exists among them, they are of one accord that the establishments they represent in particular and business generally not only held their own, responding period of 1927, and a slight but moved on to greater stability and decrease in births. Births outnumbered more far-reaching service. Books of

the insurance companies showed marked gains in business handled, some of them reporting from 5 to 10 per cent increase in volume of new business and an improvement of 25 to 50 per cent in collections. Added stability of both commercial and savings accounts, increase in deposits, and broadening of service rendered were reported by the bank. The building and loan associations increased their loans, projected still further in home development and added to their lists of regular savers.

The Guide Publishing Company, publishers of the Norfolk Journal and Guide, and commercial printers, made constructive improvements in the way of added equipment, increased circulation of its newspaper and physical expansion of its plant. More than a half dozen employees were added during the year. The firm is the largest Negro employer of labor in the city, carrying on the payroll 23 regular employees.

Another important business gain, however, was the locating here of a district office by the Victory Life Insurance Company, of Chicago. This is the only Negro life insurance company licensed to operate in the State of New York, and is one of the most substantial enterprises of the race.

Religious Life

The religious life of the race group in this city constitutes one of its stabilizing as well as inspirational influences. The population worship in 68 Protestant churches and one Catholic church, whose aggregate membership approximates 20,000. The decline in church membership which has provoked alarm among church leaders in some sections of the country is not noticeable among the colored people of Norfolk. If anything their churches have noted a steady growth in the number of communicants.

Notable among the instances of physical progress of the colored churches of the community during the past year was the erection of the new St. James A. M. E. Church in South Norfolk by the pastor, the Rev. R. L. Dillery and his congregation. This piece of work was accomplished in one year after the Rev. Mr. Dillery took charge of the church. It is a magnificent brick edifice, costing in the neighborhood of \$40,000, and modernly appointed. Another outstanding physical improvement was the purchase of adjoining property by the members of the First Baptist Church on Bute street, under the leadership of the Rev. Richard H. Bowling, which was converted into use for outdoor worship in mid-summer and a children's, public playground.

The choir and pastor of this church also broadcast over the radio from the Union Mission twice last year. Their program on both occasions was roundly received by the vast radio audience. These acts served to lift the Negro church activities of the city out of the commonplace and did much to enhance better race relations, which, after all, is an appropriate task for the church.

Probably the most striking new development in Negro church life occurring in the city for the past year, however, was the physical extension of the Catholic property on East Brambleton avenue, which is under charge of Father Vincent B. Warren. For about four months workmen were engaged making extensive improvements to this plant, which consists of a church and

parochial school. The square brick building facing East Brambleton avenue which formerly housed the church as well as class rooms, has been given over to school purposes entirely. It has been extensively remodeled, additional class rooms have been added, the interior redecorated, re-floored, the roof raised and the exterior given a covering of white cement. One of the smaller buildings formerly used as a school annex has been extending to Brewer street and converted into the church proper. It has a front of the most delightful church design and the auditorium will seat 500 persons. New furnishings have been placed in the structure and it now stands as an imposing addition to Negro church life. The two brick residences on either side of the school building, the rectory and the home of the housekeeper, also have been remodeled and given an exterior coating of white cement. In fact every building composing the entire colored Catholic plant has been improved, and given a white finish. This property now makes one of the most pleasing sights in the city's Negro neighborhood. The improvements were had at an approximate cost of \$40,000.

Grace Episcopal Church, of which the Rev. B. W. Harris is rector, also underwent considerable physical improvement. The edifice was re-painted, re-decorated and re-furnished at quite a considerable outlay. Added to this the parsonage was remodeled and improved.

New pastors coming to the city were the Rev. Mr. Moore, who came to serve St. Paul A. M. E. Church, on the corner of East Olney road and St. Patrick street; the Rev. W. H. Barnes, who stationed at Mt. Zion A. M. E. Church corner of Tyler and Monroe street; the Rev. David A. Wilson, who leads the Monumental A. M. E. congregation; the Rev. Mr. Foley, at John Wesley A. M. E. Church; and the Rev. A. L. Lassiter, who came to pastor Wesley Union A. M. E. Zion Church.

Labor Situation

Happily the year 1928 closed finding Negro labor here normally employed. In fact, the employment situation locally showed marked improvement over that of the previous year. There were virtually no job hunters who could not find some kind of work. The principal occupations in which colored labor is employed, such as building trades, longshore work or loading and unloading ship cargoes, coal trimming at the Norfolk & Western and Virginian Railway piers, lumber yard work, tobacco stemming, box and crate factories, warehousemen, railroad freight handlers, yard workers and domestic vocations, absorbed their normal quota of workers.

Work for longshoremen was much more continuous during the year just passed than it was during the previous year. There was a substantial increase of tonnage handled at the port, which, of course, afforded more work for Negro handlers.

The labor force at the Norfolk Navy Yard was augmented during the summer and colored workmen who are employed largely as laborers and helpers, along with a considerable number of skilled and semi-skilled workers, shared in the work offered.

The railroads retained normal forces in the yards and shops, the Virginia Electric and Power Company under-

took large physical expansions, besides the city's public works department had a force of laborers continuously at work, all of which made a helpful labor situation in so far as colored workers were concerned.

Activity in the building trades is always a hopeful augury for more work for colored labor. This activity for the year just closed probably gave this labor more than the usual amount of work, inasmuch as it is noted that under favorable conditions there seems to be more inclination on the part of contractors to give colored labor a share in the skilled work in building construction. Though there has been noted some loss in certain lines of work that were traditionally Negro, the increase in factory work offered the group through the coming of new industries has served largely to balance the situation.

Schools

Probably two of the most distinctive features of the colored schools of Norfolk are the Booker T. Washington and Dunbar schools. The former provides for the intermediate and high school organization in one plant, thus developing a very close articulation in the two phases of work and facilitating effective administration. The latter is a school of prevocational type. Industrial training is given in cooking, sewing, shop work, including furniture repairing.

In this school the health work receives particular attention. Underweight children are given milk at mid-morning lunch.

The open-air classes, composed of children of normal age and mentality, are among the most satisfactory in the city.

Conspicuous phases of progress during the year in the schools was the recent organization of a branch division of research and experimentation, which is working on pertinent school problems of the day, and the contribution of the teaching staff of the elementary schools to the Character Education Bulletin published in the early fall.

Another progressive movement on the part of the schools is the training of teacher examiners for each building. This is being done through an extension course affiliated with Hampton Institute and given by the director of mental testing in the city schools. By having examiners in each building, it will be possible for each school to study its problems more carefully.

Norfolk's colored school enrollment totals 7,515, distributed as follows: Elementary, 5,725; intermediate, 920; high, 870.

In the spring term of 1928, 634 pupils in the elementary schools, or approximately 9 per cent of the enrollment, withdrew from the schools during the term. The chief causes of these withdrawals were—leaving the city, 2,314; going to work, 125; personal illness, 107; financial conditions in the home, 43. The percentage of loss due to these causes was greatest in the first and fifth grades.

It is a point of satisfaction to the school administration, however, that the greatest loss from the enrollment was due to removal from the city—a factor for which the schools have no responsibility.

Catholic School

The Catholic school has an enrollment of more than 800, the majority

of the pupils being children of Protestant parents. Physical improvements to this plant have already been described.

Social Welfare

Doubtless colored Norfolk's most conspicuous advancement last year was made in the field of social welfare. Two very important social welfare units looking to the character and physical development of boys were established here. These were the revival of the Y. M. C. A. and the establishment of the Boy Scout movement for colored youth. The Norfolk Council Boy Scouts of America, colored district committee, was established February 28, upon the arrival of Stanley A. Harris, national scout executive of the Southern district, whose headquarters is in Chattanooga, Tenn. The council now has 21 registered scoutmasters, trained by Louis R. Lester, scout executive of Norfolk Council, with about 150 boys allied with the movement, 15 of whom recently qualified as second class scouts. The committee is headed by Abner E. Lee, chairman; Rev. J. Alex Valentine, vice chairman; W. C. Fulford, secretary, and Rev. B. B. Evans, treasurer. The six troops operate under Trinity A. M. E. Church, Berkley, J. E. Fulford, scoutmaster; Bank Street Baptist Church, Charles F. Sparks, scoutmaster; St. Joseph's Catholic Church, J. Webb Johnson, scoutmaster; Mount Olive Baptist Church, Maceo Johnson, scoutmaster; United Presbyterian Church, W. Eugene Graves, scoutmaster, and Grace P. E. Church, E. Omohundro, scoutmaster.

Re-establishment of the Y. M. C. A. evolved from the Boys' Club, which operated quite successfully here for about two years, the first year's operation being at the expense of the sponsors. E. S. Peters, president; Abner E. Lee, secretary, and T. P. Turner, treasurer. Later it became a member of the Community Fund. In order to make this very desirable boys' work more sustaining, however, negotiations were later begun to have the Central Y. M. C. A. take it over. Through the interest of Burt B. Fenn, executive secretary of the Central Association, this was accomplished. The Boys' Club passed out of existence, and in its place came the Y. M. C. A., being a revival of the old institution here which ceased to function some years ago.

The executive secretary of the Colored Y. M. C. A. is Prof. J. W. Anderson, who came here from St. Paul Normal and Industrial School at Lawrenceville, where for 13 years he was an instructor. He is well qualified for the work, having received his A. B. degree from Wilberforce University and B. D. from the Social Science Department of Yale University. The Y at present is confining its program to boys' work, but contemplates taking on the men's work some time in the not distant future. Headquarters is located at 162 Church street.

For the first time a public park was made available to the colored citizens of Norfolk last year. The 17-acre tract of land located on the lower end of Barraud avenue, purchased by the city for the purpose a couple of years ago, was opened as Barraud Park under direction of the Department of Public Welfare. Immediately upon opening the park became extremely popular with the children, and the attendance there throughout the summer was amazing. Thousands of young folks from mere tots to young men and

women congregated at the park daily. The establishment of this open-air center for the use of colored people can be counted as a distinct community advancement affecting their life.

Race Relations

One of the most inspiring factors in the community life of this city is the pleasant race relations that exist. For years now nothing has occurred here to mar these relations. In fact, the people are not in the attitude to permit them to be easily ruffled. The fearlessness of the white press of Norfolk, and its uniform fairness in the most delicate bi-racial situations is known throughout the country. In any given situation where merit is on their side, the colored citizens here can depend that the press of the city will be found throwing its weight where it is convinced that right exists or against what it perceives to be wrong, and it uniformly appraises the circumstances on the side of justice. There is no doubt whatever that there exists here a studied effort on the part of both races to live in utmost harmony and good will, and in mutual interest for the welfare of this community.

In The Professions

The Negro in the professions in this city is respected by both those whom he serves and the opposite race. Leading physicians and lawyers here, including Dr. D. W. Byrd, Dr. F. R. Trigg, Dr. J. T. Givens, Dr. G. H. Francis; Attorneys J. Eugene Diggs, E. S. Peters, James M. Harrison, W. W. Foreman, David H. Edwards and others, joined in the opinion that the prospects for Negro professions in Norfolk are increasingly hopeful.

Prominent colored women here who have wide business contact include Emma W. Kelley, grand secretary of the Daughters I. B. P. O. E. of W.; Adeline Ward, leader of the United Order of Tents; Eleanora Young, treasurer of the Guide Publishing Company; Elaine Brown, of the Brown & Brown Real Estate Company, who expressed the view that the opportunities here for the colored girl in business, professions and other lines of useful endeavor are steadily in the making and that none, who are really ambitious and not afraid to work need hesitate about casting their lot here.

Their message to the colored working girl, those in domestic service, which after all forms the major labor opportunities for our women, is to take seriously the tasks in hand, perform their duties with diligence, loyalty and intelligence and to bear in mind that all useful labor is honorable.

Beauty parlors form the largest number of business enterprises operated here by colored women. Some of these establishments are so modernly equipped and cleanly operated that they take a place as valuable Negro business assets. These women are doing much to give employment to other women and girls of their race.

All in all the year 1928 closed finding the Negro of Norfolk making steady gains in all lines of endeavor. He faces 1929 with renewed confidence, with faith in himself and his possibilities, and in the prospects for him in his community. His requests not alms but opportunity. Given that he will make his way.

STATE JOURNAL COLUMBUS, O.

SEP 22 1928

PROGRESS SHOWN

Columbus Negroes Own
\$15,000,000 Realty.

Columbus Negroes will present a remarkable pageant of progress won during 65 years of freedom, in their Emancipation day celebration at the state fair grounds, figures collected by N. B. Allen, secretary of the Columbus Urban League, in connection with the events, show.

Negroes now own more than \$15,000,000 in Columbus real estate and operate more than 360 businesses. These include financial institutions, life insurance companies, drug stores, groceries, theaters, moving and storage companies, and almost every kind of business that goes to make up a complete, normal community. The Negro population of Columbus exceeds 30,000. There are 26 Negro physicians, 20 lawyers, 18 dentists, 11 pharmacists and 20 real estate dealers, Allen said. City schools have 25 Negro teachers, and the city employs 19 Negro policemen, and two detectives. The city has 83 Negro churches and 12 social agencies which devote all or most of their energies to work among the Negroes.

OCT 24 1928

Va. Provisions for Negro Are Discussed By Writer

Employment Services in Cities and Agricultural Advice by Trained Experts Are Among Aids Tendered Race.

(Editor's Note—Below is the first of a series of four articles on "Virginia's Provision for the Negro," the result of a comprehensive study of the subject.)

By JOHN J. CORSON, III.

"You can't keep a man in the ditch without staying in with him and you can't get out of the ditch without him climbing out too," was the homely, but expressive utterance of Booker Washington in speaking of the problems of his race and their solution.

To anyone interested in naught save his own welfare, happiness and prosperity it still must be apparent that such personal satisfactions can not be assured to him alone. A typhoon sweeps only a narrow path, but within its range it devastates the property of both rich and poor. Can one sit by and not realize that his own health is dependent on that of all those with whom he and his family come in contact? Can the manufacturer prosper if his laborers are ignorant and unskilled? What degree of success will the merchant obtain whose customers are poverty stricken? are our children to live where the vicious and underprivileged are at liberty rather than provided for by welfare agencies?

Impression in North.

If a resident of one of our sister states north of the Mason and Dixon line were asked what provisions Virginia, or any Southern state, made for the life of its Negro citizens, their health, education and welfare, his reply would probably be, "Practically nothing; just enough to save their face." Traditionally the North has thought of the South as having an attitude of "thumbs down" whenever the Negro was mentioned. But is this impression an accurate one?

Constitutional provisions promise much, but often mean little. All state constitutions contain some such phrase as is found in the Virginia constitution, "That government is instituted for the common benefit, protection and security of the people." The problem then is to analyze the interpretation of this phrase and the application of its meaning in the every-day affairs of government with respect to its effect on the Negro citizens of this commonwealth.

The Negroes of the South have been and are handicapped by economic and social traditions. Their position, so determined, provides the opportunity for the state government to offer them even greater services than their more fortunate white brethren. They are in greater need. Perhaps, there is no obligation placed upon the officials to

accept any such responsibility, but do they or do they not accept this obligation?

800,000 in Virginia.

There are in Virginia today approximately 800,000 Negroes. These citizens reside in all parts of the state, but large numbers of them are concentrated in certain sections. Twenty-two counties, principally those in the Tidewater region, have larger Negro populations than white. Twelve counties have more registered Negro voters than white.

Approximately 38 per cent. of the Negro citizens of this commonwealth reside on farms. More than 32,000 farms are owned by Negroes and 17,000 more are operated by Negro tenants. Virginia's Negro population is largely agricultural and primarily rural. Like other rural peoples this population group contains a greater number of children and smaller number of adults in the productive age period upon whom the burden of support rests in proportion to the total number than do more urbanized groups. Accentuated by the greater fertility of the Negro race this factor gains added significance.

In our growing industries an increasing number of Negro laborers are finding employment. Many others are employed as servants in the homes of this state. Above this level are found Negro doctors, lawyers, bankers, nurses and teachers. Practically every field contains a Negro representative. Yet, since the great mass of the Negro race earns its living by manual labor its general economic level is far below that of the dominant race.

Economical Level Lower.

For the benefit of the Negro residents, it is estimated that Virginia annually spends more than \$8,750,000. Every branch of the state government has the opportunity to serve the Negro citizens and does so without of race. The work of some departments, however, comes much more closely in contact with the Negro than that of others.

For instance, the bureau of labor and industry serves the white and Negro laborer both by setting up and maintaining regulatory provisions as to hours of work and conditions under which work shall be done in mines and factories. Likewise it renders to skilled and unskilled, full and part-time workers of both races a free employment service. To measure the service rendered the Negro for comparison with that rendered the white is impossible.

To the Negro farmer a more direct service is rendered. The state department of agriculture serves in a regu-

latory and advisory capacity alike to all. The Negro farmer who writes for information as to how to eradicate a crop pest is advised just as is the white farmer. Directly, the Negro farmer is reached by the colored farm agents and his wife by the colored home demonstration agents supervised by the extension service of the state agricultural college.

Trained in Agriculture.

These farm agents, Negro men trained in agriculture, are supported in part by federal and state aid which must in turn be matched by local support. Twenty counties have taken advantage of this opportunity and there the Negro farmers receive the benefit of the advice and help of a college trained man in solving their production and marketing problems. Home demonstration agents, Negro women trained in home economics, similarly supported, are found in but six counties. Their work consists of aiding the Negro farm woman to become more efficient in the performance of her job and in showing those women by concrete example how better results in the home can be obtained.

No mention will be made in this study of the many private agencies which contribute materially to the life of the Virginia Negro. The contributions of the state government alone are to be depicted. In succeeding articles the work of those departments which come most intimately into contact with the Negro folk of this state will be traced. Not all state departments can be so analyzed.

Only the highlights can be touched. This will be sufficient to demonstrate that Virginia has provided for several decades and is continuing to provide for the welfare of her Negro citizens.

Negroes in this state are aware and appreciative of this fact. At the opening of the present century but 59.7 per cent. of the Negro farmers owned their farms. By 1925, this percentage had increased to 66.5. Negro home ownership in the cities has likewise increased. The Negro's economic position has been bettered and as the industrial development of Virginia goes on the Negro's prosperity will grow apace.

Social Conditions Better.

Social conditions are likewise improved materially. Whereas approximately 35 per cent. of the Negroes were illiterate in 1900, in 1920 only 23.5 per cent. could not read or write. The percentage of Negro children attending school increased during the decade 1910 to 1920 from 44.3 per cent. to 54.0 per cent. Many schools have been financed by local Negro subscription. That the Negro health is improved by his acceptance of the teachings of health officials is indicated by marked declines in the death and infant mortality rates. Negro delinquency and crime shows no alarming growth.

To whose advantage does this improved social and economic condition of the Virginia Negro accrue? To the Negro? Yes, but does it not very materially add to the sum total of the progress and prosperity of the state, as a whole?

Progress of the Negro-1929

Negroes Building Well



Above is the remodeled St. Joseph's Catholic School (colored) on East Brambleton avenue, and, below, the Jackson Apartments on Avenue A, two items of the Norfolk Negroes' extensive building program, completed during 1928. (Photos by staff photographer.)

LESTER A. WALTON WRITES ABOUT ST. LOUIS NEGROES

Special Feature Writer of The New York World Spends Week in Old Home City and Observes Progress of Race Along Many Lines. Story Appears in New York World, May 12

By LESTER A. WALTON

ST. LOUIS, Mo., May 27.—I will sit in the same waiting room less than a decade St. Louis has grown 115,000 more in population. Thirty thousand of these newcomers are Negroes.

The United States Census in 1920 put the total population at 800,000, of which 70,000 were Negroes. Present-day estimates are 915,000 and 100,000 respectively.

The majority of migrants come from the cane brakes of Louisiana and the bottom lands of Mississippi and Arkansas. In every respect they were distinctively rural. To them the life and customs of a large city farther north were new and perplexing.

St. Louis Adopted Definite Program

In some Northern industrial centres the Negro migrant has been compelled to adjust himself to an urban environment without much assistance. But in St. Louis a definite program was adopted to give the former field hand a larger outlook on life and more in keeping with the times.

The local Urban League maintains a demonstration room where women are taught the use of electricity and gas. Some had only used tallow candles or kerosene lamps in the backwoods. There have been instances of both male and female migrants putting wet hands on electrical appliances with shocking results.

In this phase of stimulating community service hundreds become familiar with modern household equipment and receive many helpful suggestions from home economists. They learn to cook palatable meals with body-building footstuffs, to buy the right kind of soaps, and to observe the laws of health and hygiene.

Contests are held and prizes awarded those living in the poorer sections for best-kept homes. Encouragement is given on every hand for the migrant to make the best of poverty.

St. Louis is neither a Northern nor a Southern City. It is a mixture of both in sentiment and tradition. "Jim Crow" cars are unknown. No one is denied the right to vote

on racial grounds. The public parks and recreational centres are open to everyone. In the railroad stations members of the race are barred from large playhouses and movies.

Discrimination also has cropped up in seating arrangements at the major-league baseball games. Much of the present unfriendly attitude in places of public accommodation is attributed to the influx of white and colored migrants from the South in recent years. One element brought with it its prejudices of lifetime; the other its habits of lifetime.

This city has never been disgraced by a race riot, although some late hotels, two weekly newspapers and non-residents seem to confuse St. Louis, Mo., with East St. Louis. They unwittingly charge the former with the big racial disturbance some years ago. The Illinois town is on the other side of the Mississippi River.

Maintain Separate School System

While there has always been a separate school system no difference is made in compensating the teachers. There are 300 Negro teachers, fifteen principals, two high schools, thirteen graded schools, besides special schools for defectives and others.

Sumner High School was built a dozen years ago at a cost of \$750,000. The Vashon High School, opened but a short time, cost \$1,000,000.

Love of home comforts, Southern hospitality, a zest for education and an appreciation of cultural values have long stamped the St. Louis Negro as a stable type of citizen. The Anniversary Club is one of the oldest and most representative organizations of its kind in the country.

For years the race has owned homes in all sections of the city. Since the World War it is said to have increased its realty holdings 150 per cent. Negroes have taken over beautiful residences in the area bounded by Vandeventer and Taylor Avenues on the east and west, Cook and Enright Avenues on the north and south.

Another area formerly occupied by white people is Belle Glade and Tay-

Two years ago the First Baptist church celebrated its 100th anniversary. St. Elizabeth's Catholic school and community centre at Cook and Taylor Avenues.

Only recently has the St. Louis Negro attracted more than passing attention in the realm of big business, that is, with but one notable exception—Poro College—one of the largest hair culture institutions owned and operated by Negroes in the country. Poro College, with its large buildings and varied activities—industrial, social and civic—and Sumner High School, extending for almost a block from east to west brought about an enhancement of property values in that district. West St. Louis known as Elleardsville and raised the tone of the community.

The next concern to excite favorable interest outside of its local boundaries was the People's Finance Corporation, which is housed in its modern office building erected at Jefferson Avenue and Market Street.

It deals in industrial and real estate loans, savings and safe deposit services. The company's resources in December, 1928, were \$537,385.37. The Peoples Finance Corporation, the St. Louis Stars Baseball Club, champions of the Negro National League which owns its park; uptodate hotels, two weekly newspapers—the St. Louis Argus and the St. Louis American the Booker Washington Theatre and sundry motion pictures houses, restaurants, drug stores, haberdasheries, grocery and meat stores, are catalogued among the creditable business enterprises conducted by the race. The Masons and Knights of Pythias have acquired valuable property.

Physicians and lawyers for thirty years have labored to advance the interests of their people.

There are more than 100 Negro churches in St. Louis. The largest are: St. Louis Tabernacle Baptist Church, membership of 3,500, and property valued at \$250,000; St. Paul A. M. E. Church, membership 2,000, and property valued at \$250,000; Scruggs Memorial C. M. E. Church, membership 320, and property valued at \$200,000; First Baptist Church, membership, 2,200, and property valued at \$160,000; Central Baptist Church, membership 1,545, and property valued at \$150,000; Lane Tabernacle C. M. E. Church, membership 2,500, and property valued at \$100,000; All Saints Episcopal Church, membership 473, and property valued at \$100,000; Union Memorial Church, membership 3,500, and property valued at \$125,000; Metropolitan A. M. E. Zion Church, membership 4,000, and property valued at \$75,000; and Berean Presbyterian Church, membership 275, and property valued

Economic And Social Progress

THE following inventory of Negro progress is furnished by Opportunity, in the December number:

Journal and Guide

Population	11,000,000
Wealth	\$2,500,000,000
Home Owners	700,000
Farm Owners	232,000
Value of Farms	\$ 700,000,000
Business Enterprises	70,000
Banks	73
Banks Capital	\$6,500,000
Annual Business Done in Banks	\$1,000,000,000
Teachers	48,000
Churches	51,000
Value of Property	\$100,000,000

Norfolk, Va.
While the figures are interesting they are not impressive. We ought to make a much better showing. There was a time when every appearance of a Negro orator on a platform was an occasion for an eloquent recital of the great things we had achieved since emancipation. The truth is that we have no more than half what we should possess. Our wealth is put down by the Opportunity statistician at \$2,500,000,000. Henry Ford and John D. Rockefeller together have more cash and liquid securities than that. We have 73 banks with a combined capital of \$6,500,000, which does not approximate the combined capital of the white banks in Norfolk and Richmond alone.

So after all we are "not so forty," if our cultured readers know what is meant by that choice morsel of modern slang.

If in the next decade some power can bring us to contemplate not what we own, but what we spend, and with whom, the secret of our cramped holdings will be revealed.

Negroes in Norfolk alone spend \$120,000.00 a week for food. The combined

business of all the colored grocers in the city would not amount to more than that in a year. Who gets the other \$6,120,000.00? We spend \$4,000,000.00 a year in Norfolk for clothing of all kinds. How much of it comes back to us?

Let us apply these figures to the 11,000,000 of us in United States and see what a stupendous amount of money we spend every year, and how little in comparison we convert into homes, farms, business, schools, churches

Progress of the Negro-1929

MEMORIAL BLDG. AUTHORIZED BY CONGRESS

During the closing hours of the 70th Congress, the House passed the Senate Joint Resolution to create a commission to secure plans and designs for, and to erect a memorial building for the National Memorial Association Incorporated, in the city of Washington.



**Congressman Will Taylor,
Who introduced the Bill**

tion, as a tribute to the Negro's contribution to the achievement of America, at a cost of \$500,000.

The bill passed the Senate in May, 1928. It provides for a commission of fifteen members of whom the director of public buildings and public parks of the National Capital, the supervising architect of the Treasury and the Architect of the Capital would be ex-officio members. The remaining 12 members would be appointed by the President. The commission will be known as the National Memorial Commission.

The duties of the Commission will be to procure and determine upon location, plans, and designs for a me-

morial building suitable for meetings of patriotic organizations, public ceremonial events, the exhibition of art and inventions, and placing statues and tablets, in the city of Washington, as a tribute to the Negro's contribution to the achievements of America.

The construction of the memorial shall be upon such site as shall be determined by the commission, and approved by the Commission of Fine Arts, according to the resolution, which further provides that the construction shall be entered upon as speedily as practicable after the plan and design therefor is determined and approved by the Commission of Fine Arts.

It provides that the Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks shall prosecute to completion under authorized contracts entered into by the commission in a total sum not less than \$500,000, which sum shall be provided by voluntary contributions under the auspices of the Association in accordance with the plans authorized by the commission.

The commission is empowered to employ the services of such artists, architects, sculptors, and others as will guarantee a structure in accordance with the plans and designs of the commission.

The act makes available a sum of \$50,000 to be available when the sum of \$500,000 shall have been paid into the National Memorial Association, which \$50,000 will defray the necessary for the expenses and maintenance of the commission and the cost of securing plans, designs, site, and other incidentals incident to the construction of a memorial building provided in the act.

The commission must submit a detailed statement to Congress from time to time.

Vacancies occurring in the membership of the commission shall be filled by appointment by the President.

RICHMOND

VIRGINIA

SEP 21 1929

NATION'S PRESS.

The monument erected by the Negroes in

Wonderland park bears figures which indicate graphically the advancement of the race. Eleven million people, whose wealth aggregates two and a half billions, are the descendants of four million propertyless slaves sixty-four years after emancipation.

This is a gigantic achievement to have been accomplished in two generations, but there is every reason to believe that it is merely the first chapter of the history of Negro progress in America. The irresistible weapon in this country is economic power. Apparently the Negroes have grasped that significant fact; at any rate, they have grasped the weapon, and with every day that passes they are strengthening their position.

Considering the backwardness of their start, and the number and weight of their handicaps, they have probably moved more rapidly than any other element of our population in the last sixty-four years. Now that they are swiftly ridding themselves of the worst handicap of all, namely, ignorance, they should move faster than ever.

No man in America has reason to look toward the future with higher hopes than those of the Negro.—Baltimore Evening Sun.

**HERALD
GULFPORT, MISS.**

SEP 21 1929

Negroes Erect Monument

Negroes have erected a monument in Wonderland Park, Baltimore, in which they honor those who have been friendly to the race. Photographs of the latest champions, President Hoover and Congressman Oscar DePriest of Illinois, being placed at the top, lead all the rest. Lincoln, Roosevelt, Frederick Douglass, and Booker Washington, "the founder of industrial education" at Tuskegee, are among those remembered and memorialized. It is shown on the monument that the first load of Africans

was landed at Jamestown, Virginia in 1619, and the first slave in Maryland in 1642.

On the main shaft are figures showing the present status of the population of 11,000,000 negroes in the country. Their wealth was placed at \$2,500,000,000; the number of homestead owners 700,000; farm owners 232,000; value of farms, \$700,000,000; business enterprises, 70,000; banks, 73; with a capital of \$6,500,000,000 and an annual business of \$100,000,000, and churches, 51,000, with property valued at \$100,000,000.

**SEP 23 1929
NEW YORK
GRAPHIC**



HONORING HONEST ABE—In commemoration of Emancipation Day, Fiorello H. La Guardia, Republican nominee for mayor, placed wreath on statue of Abraham Lincoln in Union Square at exercises held by National Association for Advancement of Colored People

(Photo Graphic)